

MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LONDON SYMPHONIA PRESENTS AN EVENING OF MUSICAL ALCHEMY IN SEASON FINALE CONCERT



TRANSFORMED Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

LONDON, May 14, 2024 – London Symphonia is ending its 2023-24 Season with Transformed, a fascinating concert curated by Shawn Spicer, principal trumpet. Transformed presents a fresh re-thinking of music from the Renaissance to the present day, many of the works arranged by Spicer, and performed by the Winds, Brass and Percussion of London Symphonia. (Saturday, May 25, at 7:30 pm, Metropolitan United in London, ON.)

"Shawn Spicer is an incredible and versatile musician," said Andrew Chung, Artistic Producer. "He brings his consummate skills as curator, arranger, performer and leader to examining transformation from different musical perspectives, including the evolution of instruments and sound. **Transformed** is going to be a fun concert, and certainly one to remember!"

The concept of transformation provides a rich foundation for this concert, as it is deeply ingrained in the history of music. Spicer's inventive approach promises to uncover layers of transformation inherent in musical creativity. In his arrangements he elevates the original music to something that is more powerful and more touching.

"Transformation is at the heart of all creativity," said Spicer. "In **Transformed** we will lift the curtain on musical transformation with some of the most beautiful and inventive music ever written."

Highlights of the program include the sublime fugue writing of J.S. Bach alongside the tongue in cheek writing of P.D.Q. Bach. Variations by the notable American composer Charles Ives will be heard along with variations by the Australian composer Percy Grainger. The program will also feature contemporary pop tunes by brilliant creators Amy Winehouse and Macklemore, adding a modern twist.

Concertgoers can choose to attend **Transformed** in person or view the Livestream and then enjoy unlimited 4K HDR On Demand Access until June 20, 2024.

The 7:30 p.m. concert can be heard in person or livestreamed online. In-person tickets are \$52 Regular seating, \$70 Premium Seating, and \$50 for Livestream / On Demand access plus fees and HST. Tickets are available online at **londonsymphonia.ca.**

LISTING INFORMATION

LONDON SYMPHONIA CONCERT Transformed

London Symphonia Shawn Spicer, curator, leader, trumpet Sat. May 25 at 7:30 pm Doors open at 6:30 pm Metropolitan United, 468 Wellington St, London, ON N6A 3P8 The concert can be heard in person or livestreamed online. In-person tickets are \$52 Regular seating, \$70 Premium seating, and \$50 for Livestream / On Demand Access plus fees and HST. Free tickets are available for Post Secondary, High School and Children aged 6 to 12. Family-Flex Packs and tickets to individual concerts can be purchased online at londonsymphonia.ca.

London Symphonia is deeply grateful to the continued support of the London Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, and the Ontario Arts Council.

ABOUT SHAWN SPICER

Shawn Spicer makes a number of important contributions to London Symphonia. In addition to holding the position of principal trumpet, he is also the music librarian and production manager.

His love of playing baroque and renaissance music on original instruments has taken him to perform as far away as Japan and Brazil. He has played with Tafelmusik, Studio de Musique Ancienne de Montreal, the Sante Fe Early Music Society and the Theatro Municipale do Rio de Janeiro.



A committed educator, Shawn has taught trumpet at Western University since 2002. Previously he was trumpet instructor at the Canadian Forces School of Music in Borden, Ontario for eight years.

Originally from Nova Scotia, Shawn has received degrees from McGill and Yale universities. For almost 30 years he has worked with orchestras and chamber groups as a professional musician and administrator across Canada from Symphony Nova Scotia to the Calgary based Foothills Brass Quintet to the West Coast of Vancouver Island at Bamfield's Music by the Sea Festival.

ABOUT LONDON SYMPHONIA

London Symphonia is a professional symphony orchestra committed to performing vibrant and bold musical experiences for London and the region. With a core of 30 players, our versatile group meets the community's needs for quality programming by presenting wellknown symphonies, Canadian premieres, and collaborations with some of Canada's finest singer-songwriters. We deliver a rich, artistic experience by seeking out the most accomplished performers and conductors representing a blend of locally, nationally and internationally recognized talent. A registered charitable organization, we perform a number of outreach and music education engagements each season for students and seniors in our community.

Website: londonsymphonia.ca

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